

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COLOMB 00877 111323Z POSS DUPE
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 IO-13 CU-02 CIAE-00
COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 AID-05
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 /090 W
-----111524Z 124605 /46

R 111120Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6881

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT,PINR,CE
SUBJECT: RADICALS SUSPENDED FROM LANKA SAMA SAMAJA PARTY (LSSP)

1.SUMMARY.VASUDEVA NANAYAKKARA,LSSP M.P. FROM KIRIELLA,
HAS BEEN SUSPENDED FROM THE LSSP ALONG WITH FOUR OTHER
MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE. HE WAS ACCUSED OF FORMING
A RIVAL UNION TO THE PRESENT LSSP-AFFILIATED ONE IN THE
PUBLIC CORPORATION SECTOR.BASUDEVA HAS LONG BEEN A THORN
IN THE SIDE OF THE CONVENTIONAL LSSP LEADERSHIP; HIS
STRENGTH HAS BEEN IN THE YOUTH WING OF THE PARTY AND ON
UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES.END SUMMARY.

2. VASUDEVA NANAYAKKARA HAS BEEN SUSPENDED FROM THE LSSP
ALONG WITH FOUR OTHER MEMBERS OF THE PARTY'S CENTRAL
COMMITTEE. HE IS ACCUSED OF ATTEMPTING TO FORM A RIVAL
UNION TO CHALLENGE THE LSSP'S PRESENT UNION IN THE STATE
CORPORATION SECTOR, THE UNITED CORPORATIONS AND MERCANTILE
UNION (UCMU). THE OTHER FOUR SUSPENDED ARE SAID TO HAVE SIGNED
A LETTER SUPPORTING HIM AND CALLING FOR A PARTY CONFERENCE
TO DISCUSS DIFFERENCES WITH THE LEADERSHIP.

3. VASUDEVA HAS ALWAYS BEEN ON THE FRINGES OF THE
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LSSP, AND HAS OFTEN OPPOSED THE PARTY LEADERSHIP. IT
HAS ALWAYS BEEN ASSUMED THAT HE REMAINED IN THE PARTY
IN THE HOPE THAT HE WOULD EVENTUALLY INHERIT THE LEADER-
SHIP WHEN THE PRESENT AGING TRIUMVIRATE PASSED AWAY.
HE HAS A SOUND BASE IN THE LSSP YOUTH LEAGUE, OF WHICH
HE IS PRESIDENT,AND IS THE ACKNOWLEDGED LEADER OF THE
VAMA("LEFT") SAMA SAMAJA, A YOUTH FACTION WITHIN THE

PARTY CONCENTRATED ON THE UNVIVERSITY CAMPUSES, PARTICULARLY AT PERADENIYA. HE HAS BEEN SEEKING A BASE WITHIN THE URBAN TRADE UNION MOVEMENT AND HAD CHALLENGED THE UCMU PRESIDENT AT A UNION ELECTION LAST YEAR. AT THE REQUEST OF THE PARTY LEADERSHIP, HE WITHDREW HIS CANDIDACY AT THAT TIME. IT WAS ONLY THIS MONTH, APPARENTLY, THAT HE DECIDED TO THROW DOWN THE GAUNTLET AND TRY TO BUILD HIS OWN TRADE UNION, IF HE COULD NOT BREAK INTO THE ORTHODOX ONE.

4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THE IMPETUS FOR THE SUSPENSION HAS COME FORM THE FORMATION OF A RENEGADE UNION,IT IS DIFFICULT TO AVOID THE ASSUMPTION THAT THIS A CONTINUATION OF THE REALIGNMENTS THAT ARE NOW OCCURING WITHIN THE LEFT MOVEMENT IN SRI LANKA. IF VASUDEVA AND THE LSSP DO NOT COME TO TERMS ON A REUNION, HE HAS SEVERAL GROUPS WITH WHICH HE CAN NEGOTIATE-- SPECIFICALLY, THE NEO-INSURGENT PARTIES AND THE SLFP DEFECTORS. THE LSSP HAS SUFFERED INNUMERABLE SCHISMS IN THE PAST,BUT IN LIGHT OF THE PARTY'S CURRENT COMMITMENT TO LEFT UNITY AND ITS SOCIALIST UNITED FRONT, VASUDEVA'S SUSPENSION NOW MUST BE VIEWED AS A SERIOUS DECISION BY THE PARTY. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE LSSP HAS ALWAYS BEEN NOTED FOR ITS STRICT INTERNAL PARTY DISCIPLINE,AND APPARENTLY IN THIS CASE THAT OUTWEIGHS THE COUNTER- VAILING DESIRE FOR UNITY,DESPITE THE PARTY'S CURRENT STRAIENED CIRCUMSTANCES.

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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